

Attorney's Docket No. 104035/244767

PATENT #6

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Detert et al. Confirmation No.: 6559
Appl No.: 10/090,525 Group Art Unit: 1615
Filed: March 4, 2002 Examiner: Jyothsna A. Venkat
For: SULPHONATED COMB POLYMERS HAVING A SELECTED
LITHIUM/SODIUM RATIO AND PREPARATIONS, IN PARTICULAR HAIR
COSMETIC PREPARATIONS, BASED ON SUCH SULPHONATED COMB
POLYMERS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In the Official Action mailed December 18, 2002, the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on the present claims. In particular, the present claims were divided into two inventions: Group I (Claims 1-12) drawn to a comb polymer; and Group II (Claims 13-27) drawn to a hair composition comprising a comb polymer. The Examiner argues that inventions I and II should be considered separately because they recite a product and a process of use.

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1-12) with traverse. It is respectfully submitted that the claims of Group II are, like the claims of Group I, actually directed to a product and not to a process of use. Therefore, it is believed that these groups should be examined together in the present application. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that the inventions of Groups I and II are sufficiently related such that the burden imposed on the Examiner in examining the inventions together are significantly less than the burden imposed on the Applicants in paying for the filing and prosecution of separate applications for these groups. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and Claim 1-27 be examined together in the present case.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required

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therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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DATE: January 14, 2003

TO: Examiner Jyothsna Venkat
United States Patent and Trademark Office - Group 1615**FROM:** Andrew T. Meunier****OFFICIAL****

In re: Detert et al.

Appl. No.: 10/090,525

Filed: March 4, 2002

For: Sulphonated Comb Polymers Having a Selected Lithium/Sodium Ratio and Preparations, in Particular Hair Cosmetic Preparations, Based on Such Sulphonated Polymers

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